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ABSTRACT

Oral history is the recording and preserving of planned interviews with selected people able to narrate recollected memory and thereby aid the reconstruction of the past. It can be used in the elementary and secondary school classroom as a way for students to capture the history and lives of people not recorded and become a part of preserving history and culture. This paper presents a bibliography of sources of the theory and practices of oral history; curriculum guides; and examples of oral history in the classroom. The address for the Oral History Association is also provided. (Author/AEF)

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Incorporating Oral History into the Curriculum: A Pathfinder

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Oral History is the recording and preserving of planned interviews with selected people able to narrate recollected memory and thereby aid the reconstruction of the past. Oral history can be used in the elementary and secondary school classroom as a way for students to capture the history and lives of people not recorded and become a part of preserving history and culture.

Start with Background Information on Oral History

When searching the library catalog for general works on oral history use the term "oral history". Also, browse the call number D16 for Library of Congress or 907.2 for the Dewey Decimal system.

The following are titles on the theory and practice of oral history.

Baum, W.K. *Oral History for the Local History Society*, 3rd ed. Nashville, TN: American Association for State and Local History, 1987.

Haulice, P. *Oral History: A Reference Guide and Annotated Bibliography*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 1985.

Hoopes, J. *Oral History: An Introduction for Students*. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 1979.

Thompson, P. *The Voice of the Past*. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

For Articles and Curriculum Guides on Oral History

In the following indexes you will find articles about oral history and curriculum models on the use of oral history in the classroom.

ERIC. Washington, DC: Educational Research Information Center, 1960-
Using the words "oral history", to search, you will find many articles. By adding other terms such as "teaching methods", "multicultural", "curriculum development", "class activities" or any other area of interest, you will get more specific titles.

KCDL (Krause Curriculum Development Library) *Cumulative Subject Index* and *Microfiche Collection*. White Plains, NY: Krause International Publications, 1994.
In the "Cumulative Subject Index" look under the "History/Geography" section for the key terms "oral history". Items listed will include a reference number to locate the document from the "Microfiche Collection".

Methods for Using Oral History in the Classroom

You can find books on this topic by looking in the library catalog using the term: "oral history--study and teaching". The following are bibliographies and general works.

Lanman, B.A. and G. Mehaffy. *Oral History in the Secondary School Classroom*. Los Angeles, CA: Oral History Association, 1988. ED 348 330.

Neuenschwander, J.A. *Oral History as A Teaching Approach*. Washington: National Education Association, 1976.

Pierce, P. *Oral History: An Effective Means to Enhance Education in the Elementary Classroom*. A paper presented at the Annual Convention of the New York State Council for Social Studies Ellenville, NY; 1984. ED 244 856.

Schipper, S.P. *Oral History: An Effective Means to Enhance Education in the Elementary Classroom*, 1982. ED 224 744.

Sitton, T, G. Mehaffy and O.L. Davis, Jr. *Oral History: A Guide for Teachers (and Others)*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1983.

Examples of Oral History in the Classroom

These are some examples of the ways that oral history has and can be used successfully in the curriculum.

Fernekes, W.R. "Student Inquiries about the Vietnam War." *Social Education* 52, 1 (January 1988): 53-54.

Totten, S. "Using Oral Histories to Address Social Issues in the Social Studies Classroom." *Social Education*, 53, 2 (February 1989): 114-116.

Wigginton, E. ed., ed. *The Foxfire Book*. Garden City, NY: Anchor Books, 1972.

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This is the first of a series. Wigginton began an oral history program in the 1960s. It was so successful that it has become a model called the "Foxfire Method".

Associations

Associations can put you in touch with local oral history experts and practitioners. You may also want to ask for a list of publications, especially their "Guidelines".

Oral History Association
Box 13734, N.T. Station
North Texas State University
Denton, TX 76203